MOUNTAIN AGRICULTURE

Conducted by Mr. Robert F. Spence, Farm Demonstrator and Special Investigator

A LIST OF PRIZE WINNERS OF BEREA CORN SHOW AND FAIR October 30, 1915.

1. Largest Cluster of Sweet Clover Stocks from this year's growth. 1st. Rev. J. W. Lambert, Berea.

2. Best Three Beets. 1st, Mrs. John D. Goodloe, Berea; 2nd, Thomas Guess, Berea; 3rd, Mrs. James Hudson, Berea.

3. Best Duroc Jersey Pig. 1st, Lona Fish, Corn Club Boy, Berea.

4. Best Poland China Pig. 1st, Roy Harrison, Berea; 2nd, Martin Baker, Berea.

5. Best Dark Layer or Loaf Cake. 1st, Mrs. J. H. Jackson, Berea; 2nd, Mrs. W. A. Ogg, Berea.

6. Best Two Pumpkins. 1st, May Griffin, Berea.

7. Best Three Squashes. 1st, Mrs. C. W. Johnston, Berea; 2nd, Mrs. C. W. Johnston, Berea.

8. Best Cake of Corn Bread. 1st, Mrs. John Harrison, Berea; 2nd, Mrs. Bert Coddington, Berea.

9. Best Fruit Cake. 1st, Mrs. W. A. Ogg, Berea.

10. Largest Ear of Corn. 1st, T. B. Stephenson, Berea; 2nd, Lona Fish, Berea.

11. Best Quart of Sorghum. 1st, Prof. J. C. Bowman, Berea; 2nd, Ples Evans, Berea; 3rd, W. H. Owen, Conway, Ky.

12. Best Turkey Gobbler. 1st, J. C. Bowman, Berea; 2nd, J. E. Hulett, Rockford.

13. Best Peck of Irish Potatoes. 1st, J. E. Hulett, Rockford; 2nd, Ben McGuire, Berea; 3rd, Lona Fish, Berea.

14. Best Ten Ears of Corn. 1st, W. C. Hunt, Berea; 2nd, Flannery Fingston, Kingston; 3rd, J. W. Allen, Berea.

15. Best Ten Ears of Popcorn. 1st, John Clark, Berea; 2nd, Ed Coddington, Berea; 3rd, J. E. Hulett, Rockford.

16. Best Quart of Seed Wheat. 1st, J. C. Wood, Conway; 2nd, S. P. Caudill, Conway.

17. Best Five Irish Potatoes. 1st, Albert Coyle, Berea; 2nd, Thomas Guess, Berea; 3rd, W. C. Brock, Conway.

18. Best Five Sweet Potatoes. 1st, Albert Coyle, Berea; 2nd, W. T. King, Berea.

19. Best Five Onions. 1st, S. P. Caudill, Conway; 2nd, Nannie Jackson, Berea; 3rd, J. M. Baker, Berea.

20. Heaviest Pumpkin. 1st, P. V. Powell, Hugh; 2nd, Mrs. Chester Gabbard, Berea.

21. Best Three Cans Assorted Vegetables. 1st, Marie Woody, Berea; 2nd, Mrs. W. A. Ogg, Berea.

22. Best Three Cans Assorted Fruit. 1st, Mrs. Fayette Vaughn, Berea; 2nd, Mrs. W. A. Ogg, Berea.

23. Best Five Apples. 1st, Luther Ambrose, Berea; 2nd, Luther Ambrose, Berea; 3rd, Mrs. J. M. Kinnard, Berea.

24. Best Loaf of Light Bread. 1st, Mary Harris, Berea; 2nd, Mrs. C. W. Johnston, Berea.

25. Best Pound of Butter. 1st, Mrs. J. H. Jackson, Berea; 2nd, Mrs. Lida Whyland, Berea; 3rd, Mrs. J. H. Harrison, Berea.

26. Best Pillow Slip. Hand Made. 1st, Mrs. J. H. Jackson, Berea; 2nd, Mrs. Simon Muncy, Berea.

27. Best Apron, Machine Made. 1st, Nannie McWhorter, Berea; 2nd, Mary Goodrich, Berea.

28. Best Fancy Apron, Hand Made. 1st, Mrs. W. T. Lutes, Berea; 2nd, Artie Abrams.

29. Best Calico or Gingham Dress. 1st, Sudie Lowen, Berea; 2nd, Mrs. Bert Coddington, Berea.

30. Best Mantle Cover. 1st, Arcie Lowen, Berea; 2nd, Mrs. Charles Anderson, Berea.

31. Best Stand Cover. 1st, Mrs. Jack Lazwell, Berea; 2nd, Mrs. W. T. Lutes, Berea.

32. Best Pair of Pillow Shams. 1st, Effie Estridge, Berea; 2nd, Edna Stewart, Berea.

33. Stalk of Corn with Greatest Number of Ears. 1st, Lewis Mullens, Berea.

Potato Club

1. Largest Yield of Irish Potatoes on One-eighth Acre. 1st, Clyde Lewis, Berea.

2. Best Five Irish Potatoes. 1st, Clyde Lewis, Berea.

Pig Club Only

1. Best Pig Exhibited Regardless of Breed or Age. 1st, Lona Fish, Berea; 2nd, Lona Fish, Berea.

2. Best Model Hog House made by Pig Club Members. 1st, John Harwood, Berea; 2nd, Lona Fish, Berea.

The remainder of prize winners will be given later.

GOVERNMENT CROP REPORT

Washington, D. C., November 8, 1915. A summary of preliminary estimates of crop production and prices for the State of Kentucky and for the United States, compiled by the Bureau of Crop Estimates, and transmitted through the Weather Bureau, U. S. Department of Agriculture, is as follows.

Corn

State.—Estimate this year 120,000,000 bu., final estimate last year 91,250,000; price November 1 to producers 54 cts. per bu., year ago 73 cts, per bu.

United States.—Estimate this year 3,090,000,000 bu., final estimate last year 2,673,000,000; November 1 price 61.9 cts., year ago 70.6.

Wheat

State.—Estimate this year 8,620,000 bu., final estimate last year 12,540,000, price November 1 to producers 105 cts., per bu., year ago 102 cts.

United States. — Estimate this year 1,002,000,000 bu., final estimate last year 891,000,000; November 1 price 93.1 cts., year ago 97.2 cts.

Oats

State.—Estimate this year 4,539,000 bu., final estimate last year 3,675,000; price November 1 to producers 45 cts., year ago 52 cts.

United States.—Estimate this year 1,517,000,000 bu., final estimate last year 1,141,000,000; November 1 price 34.9 cts., year ago 42.9 cts.

Potatoes

State.—Estimate this year 6,550,000, final estimate last year 2,250,000; price November 1 to produces 59 cts. per bu., year ago 80 cts.

United States.—Estimate this year 359,000,000 bu., final estimate last year 405,921,000; November 1 price 60.8 cts., year ago 52.8 cts.

Apples

State.—Estimate this year 4,170,000 bbls., final estimate last year 3,000,000 bbls.; price October 15 to producers $1.70 per bbl., year ago $1.95.

United States.—Estimate this year 76,700,000 bbls., final estimate last year 84,400,000 bbls.; price October 15 to producers $2.14 per bbl., year ago $1.79.

More detailed data concerning crop production, quality and prices will be published in the "Monthly Crop Report" of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

NOTES

Is the turkey fat for Thanksgiving?

Feed the cow if want her to feed the children.

What papers do you take for the mental growth of your family?

Whitewash with lime the chicken house inside and out.

Notice your hogs—Cholera is abroad in the land.

Co-operate with your County Agent in all your Agricultural problems.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be always acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. —Psalm XIX. Coverdale Translation.

CINCINNATI MARKETS

Corn—No. 1 white 65c, No. 2 white 64½@65c, No. 1 yellow 65½c, No. 2 yellow 65@65½c, No. 1 mixed 64½c, No. 2 mixed 64@64½c,

Hay—No. 1 timothy $18.50@19, No. 2 timothy $16.50, No. 3 $14.50, No. 1 clover mixed $16, No. 2 $14, No. 1 clover $13.50@14, No. 2 $11.50@12.

Mill Feed—Bran $21@21.50, mixed feed $23, middlings, coarse $24.50@25, middlings, fine $25.50@26.

Oats—No. 2 white 41½@42, standard white 41@41½c, No. 3 white 37½@38c, No. 4 white 36@36½c, No. 2 mixed 38@38½c, No. 3 mixed 37@37½c, No. 4 mixed 35½@36c.

Rye—No. 2 90c@$1.01, No. 3 95@99c, No. 4 90@94c.

Wheat.—No. 2 red $1.14@1.15, No. 3 $1.08@1.12, No. 4 $1@1.05.

Eggs—Prime firsts 34c, firsts 31½c, ordinary firsts 25c, seconds 19c.

Poultry—Broilers, 2 lbs and under, 17c; fryers, over 2 lbs, 15c; roasting chickens, 4 lbs and over, 15c; fowls, 5 lbs and over, 13½c; under 5 lbs, 12c; under 3½ lbs, 10½c; roasters, 9c; ducks, white, 3 lbs and over, 15c; under 3 lbs, 14c; colored, 13@14c; hen turkeys, 8 lbs and over, 19c; tom turkeys, 10 lbs and over, 19c.

Butter—Whole milk creamery extras 33c, centralized creamery extras 30½c, firsts 27c, seconds 24c, dairy fancy 22c, No. 1 packing stock 19c, No. 2 17c.

Cattle—Shippers $6@8, butcher steers, extra $7.25@7.65, good to choice $5.85@7, common to fair $4.65@5.75; heifers, extra $6.65@6.85, good to choice $6@6.50, common to fair $4.50@5.75; cows, extra $5.65@5.85, good to choice $4.50@5.50, common to fair $2.75@3.50; canners $2.50@3.50.

Bulls—Bologna $5@5.75, extra $5.85@6, fat bulls $6@6.25.

Calves—Extra $11, fair to good $7.75@10.75, common and large $4.50@11.50.

Hogs—Selected heavy shippers $7.15@7.20, good to choice packers and butchers $7.15@7.20, mixed packers $6.10@6.15, stags $4.25@6, common to choice heavy fat sows $5@6.50, light shippers $6.40@6.65, pigs (110 lbs and less) $4@6.25.

Sheep—Extra $5.75, good to choice $5@5.65, common to fair $3@4.90.

Lambs—Extra $9@9.10, good to choice $7.75@8.40, common to fair $5.50@7.50, culls $5@6.

BUILD INEXPENSIVE HOUSES FOR POULTRY

An Open-Front Poultry House.

A good poultry house need not be expensive. It can be made of rough boards of any kind. If a floor is used it should be made of a double thickness of planks with a sheet of building paper between. The sides and roof should be covered with heavy tar paper, battened down over all the cracks, the essential thing being to prevent any drafts whatever.

The roosting closet should be separate from the laying room and scratching shed. Hens should never be fed in the roosting closet nor should the floor of the closet be covered with straw, as this gathers dampness. Many successful poultrymen do not use dropping boards at all but clean the floor every day, which is, all things considered, preferable. Of course, if the droppings are allowed to accumulate on the floor the conditions will be as bad as if allowed to accumulate on the dropping boards. Cleanliness is always essential and whether the dropping boards are used or not the roosting house should be kept perfectly clean and dry at all times.

By sprinkling a little dry earth or sand on the floor the droppings may be removed in a few moments and the floor can be kept clean with very little effort.

The laying nests should be arranged in an apartment adjoining the roosting closet and here the birds may be fed. This laying and scratching shed should be entirely open to the south, the front being covered with wire to prevent the intrusion of rats and other rodents.

A box of grit and a box of dry road dust should always be kept in the scratching shed. No matter how careful one may be fowls cannot be kept entirely free from vermin without having constant access to dry dust. It is their natural way of protecting themselves from vermin and if they are confined without being allowed to dust themselves they are sure to be affected.

Nests should be placed at least two feet above the floor with a board so placed on an incline that the hens can easily walk up to the nest instead of being compelled to fly up. Young pullets heavy with egg are often injured by flying up to, and down from nests placed too high.

Nests should be arranged with movable bottoms so that the contents may be frequently removed and the nests kept perfectly clean. The nest should not be less than 14 inches square in size, particularly for the larger breeds of birds.

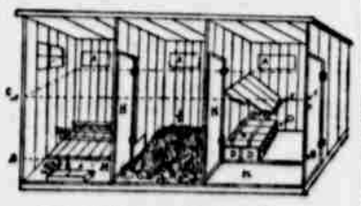
No attempt is made here to go into the scientific considerations of poultry houses used by fanciers or very large poultry breeders, but the information given is intended for the benefit of the small flock raiser, the farmer or suburban dweller.

The ground plan of the poultry house shown here is 12 feet by 30 feet, and is divided into parts each 12 feet by 10 feet.

The compartment on the right is used as a winter roosting and laying place.

The center as a scratching shed in winter and a shelter from rain and sun during the summer.

The room at the left is used during the winter as a place of exercise and in which to feed mashes and to water



Ground Plan of Poultry House.

the fowls. This room also contains dust boxes and where the feed is stored.

A, A, A, in the dotted squares represent the windows or their location in the front of the house. B, B, is sided up solid to the line running from B to B one and one-half feet high.

The line running from C to C is the top of a four-foot high poultry netting which runs the entire length of the house.

There is a drop curtain arranged in each room to come down next to this wire in stormy weather or cold nights. From C, C, to top of the house is planked up solid except the windows, as shown in A, A, A,—D, D, D, the nest boxes under the dropping board N.

There are two rows of nests—one facing the scratching shed, the other facing the right-hand room. A trap nest may be arranged very conveniently here.

E is a drop curtain in front of the roosts in the winter department, which is to be let down at night. F is the roosting poles in the winter quarters.

G is the roosting poles in the summer roosting quarters.

H, H, the doors of poultry netting.

I, the little door that leads from the scratching shed to the end room.

J, cut straw scattered on the floor of the scratching shed in which to scatter wheat, rye, oats and corn.

K, the dust box.

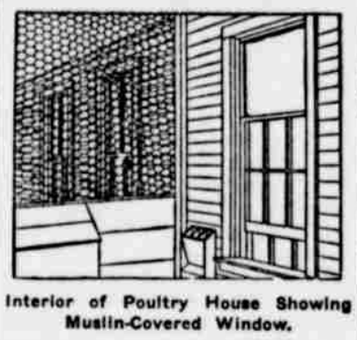
L, the drinking fountain.

M, M, M, the floor which should be of sand and gravel.

N, the dropping board in winter roosting department.

A house of these dimensions should be nine feet in front and seven feet tall in the rear. It may be made of any stuff at hand, or to suit the builder.

Many successful poultrymen prefer dirt floors, but unless these are properly constructed they will become damp and muddy and a source of great annoyance to the person in charge of the flock and a danger to the health of the birds themselves. A dirt floor should be filled in above the level of the ground at least four inches



Interior of Poultry House Showing Muslin-Covered Window.

with very coarse sand or gravel or broken rock and on top of this three or four inches of light soil, the whole covered with a heavy coating of dry sand.

A floor of this kind will resist dampness unless the house is built in a low or swampy place. No matter where located the ground should be thoroughly drained on all sides of the house on the outside. Of course the ideal dry dirt floor is made by first laying tiled drains at the depth of about six inches, 18 inches apart the entire length of the house, extending out on each side from six to eight feet. This will absolutely prevent dampness.

The open-front houses may be adapted to the small flock of the farm or to any number of birds by simply multiplying the units. This form of poultry house has been tried in all climates and has proved more satisfactory than any other.

In the extreme northern states where the thermometer falls to many degrees below zero it is well to protect the birds at night by a thin muslin curtain attached to a roller which may be rolled up during the day and let down at night but in moderate climates this protection is not at all necessary. A muslin curtain should be of such texture that the air may pass through it, otherwise drafts will be caused and drafts are positively the most harmful conditions that can affect poultry.

The open-front curtained poultry house has been thoroughly tried at the experiment stations of Maine, Minnesota, Montana and in other states where the temperature falls to 20 degrees or more below zero, and with excellent success.

In those localities where there is little snowfall but excessive moisture during the winter months, the curtains should be left off for in these cases they are sure to hold dampness in the house.

THREE GOOD POULTRY HINTS

Supply of Grit Is Essential—Select Well-Shaped Eggs for Incubator—Hatch Chickens Early.

Unless the hens have access to a free run on gravelly soil both oyster shell and mica crystal grit should be supplied where the hens may have free access to it. If a free range is available the oyster shell will be sufficient.

In selecting eggs to place in an incubator only average-sized, well-shaped eggs should be used as extremely large or small eggs or eggs that do not conform to normal shape will invariably hatch a low percentage of irregular-sized chicks.

Early hatched chicks will make more rapid growth than late hatched ones. If one wishes to sell breeding stock this is a decided advantage. Also if one wishes to market part of the chick crop as broilers and roasters the market is best for those hatched early in the season.—Farmer's Review.

Digging a Ditch In a Flash

Things move quickly nowadays. The village of yesterday is tomorrow's metropolis. Speed is a requisite, and newer methods that smack of rapidity and labor and money saving are in demand.

Ditches that once consumed many days of hand or machine labor are now being blasted out in almost the twinkling of an eye. By degrees man is learning to adopt some of nature's simple, but mighty forces. And the gullies and valleys that old Mother Earth has created by her natural upheavals and eruptions are being duplicated in a smaller way by some of the more progressive and up to date farmers.

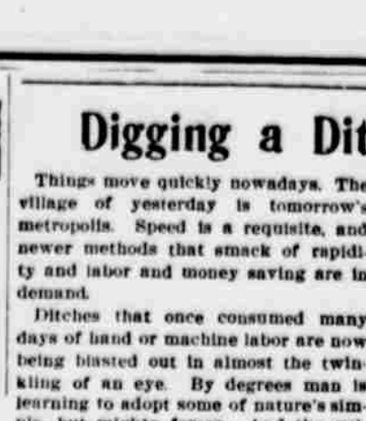
Digging ditches with dynamite is simply a newer and more improved method of trench building. The method employed in wet work is simply to punch holes from eighteen to twenty-four inches deep along the line desired to ditch and then load each hole with a charge of 50 per cent straight dynamite.

Long stretches of ditch can be loaded and fired at one time. One cap placed in a cartridge of dynamite in the middle hole of the line of charged holes and fired will do the work.

A single row of holes can usually be depended upon to excavate a ditch from seven to nine feet wide and about thirty to forty inches deep. Where larger ditches are required the holes can be made deeper and loaded heavier, or two or more lines of holes, spaced from three to four feet apart, can be used. Incidentally the holes can be made in the roughest kind of swamp or in flood muck beds, where other methods of ditching are practically impossible.

When the soil is dry or the weather is too cold to use the propagated method of blasting described above low freezing farm or stumping powder is used in holes spread farther apart, often in large ditches as far as four or five feet. In this case each hole must be primed with an electric cap, as the explosive shock will not propagate in dry ground.

The cheapest lineal foot of small ditch is obtained by using the electric firing method and farm or stumping powder.



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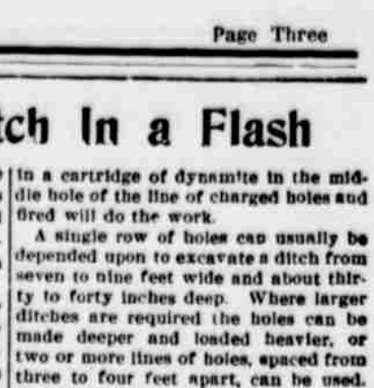


The Ditch.

BLASTING DITCHES THROUGH SWAMP.

SQUASH INJURED BY BORERS

Whole Patches of Vegetable May Be Destroyed by Insect in Few Days —Plan of One Farmer.

Some years the Hubbard squash vine is badly injured by the squash borer. The moth lays her eggs on the outside of the vine and in a few days the eggs hatch into small grubs. These immediately bore their way into the stalk where they live unseen and for a time unsuspected.

For a while the vines grow well; then, as the borer continues feeding on the inside of the stalk, the vine withers and dies. Whole patches of squash may be destroyed by these borers in a few days.

In 1914 one farmer made tests of early and late planting. The early plantings were begun in April and continued into May. Sweet corn was used as a companion crop, with the early plantings to furnish shade for the squash vines, but every vine except one was destroyed by the borers in all the early plantings.

He made late plantings of seed from June 1 to July 20, which was the last planting of the season. In order to hasten the development of the plants as an offset to late planting, separate hills were prepared. Holes were dug from eight to ten inches deep, which were filled with rich soil thoroughly mixed with chicken manure, but he left saucer-like depressions as an aid to watering the plants in dry weather. This plan proved very serviceable, as no rain fell during six weeks of midsummer. The plants had to be watered frequently to keep them vigorous.

Notwithstanding the drawbacks of late planting and a dry season, this crop of Hubbards was among the best he had ever raised. Hardly a vine was attacked by the borers. The period of squash-moth flying was over before the plants were above ground.

ONIONS LIKE COOL WEATHER

Plant Will Stand Much Heat After Making Good Start—Will Not Keep Unless Properly Ripened.

Onions grow best in relatively cool weather and require an abundance of moisture during the early stages of growth. However, they will stand considerable heat after they have made a good start, and ripen better if the weather is relatively dry at the time they mature.

This makes them an important crop in central and northern latitudes, where the weather of spring is cool and moist, and a dry period normally occurs in August or in early September. However, the season must be sufficiently long for the onions to mature before the autumn rains set in, or they are likely never to ripen properly.

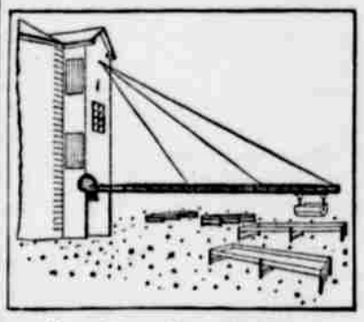
Unless properly ripened, onions will not keep. For northern localities it is sometimes necessary to use only the earlier maturing varieties.

The above statements refer to the growing of ripe onions. Green onions reach edible size in a comparatively short time, and can be grown during the normally cool and moist weather of early spring in central and northern latitudes. As a commercial crop, they are of minor importance compared with ripe onions.

SILAGE CARRIER IS USEFUL

Labor-Saving Device Can Be Used to Great Advantage by Farmer When Feed Is Not Too Large.

If you have put up a good strong silo and your feed yard is not too large, you will find the silage distributer illustrated herewith a very useful and labor-saving device. This overhead silage carrier is described in bulletin No. 145 issued from the



New Idea in Silage Carriers.

Nebraska experiment station. The arm must be well guyed and strongly pivoted. The feed bunks are placed in the form of a semicircle so the silage may be dumped directly into them from the carrier, as the arm is swung around. Either hay carrier or litter carrier track may be utilized for this purpose.

FEEDING THE YOUNG POULTS

Coarsely Ground Corn Mixed With Milk Makes One of Best Feeds for Young Fowls.

One of the best feeds for young poults is coarsely ground corn mixed with either sweet or sour milk, or the corn might be baked in a cake and then moistened with milk before feeding.

One should determine as to whether he wishes to use sweet or sour milk and then continue to use the kind decided upon as it is not advisable to change from one to the other.

This moistened ground corn is gradually mixed with corn meal until they receive clear corn meal when they are about eight weeks old.

A Rothschild Arsenal.

The Austrian Rothschilds are the only members of the family to manufacture armaments. As proprietor of the Wittkowitz iron works in Moravia, Baron Louis de Rothschild, the head of the Austrian branch, furnishes the army with metal for its guns and the navy with armor plates. These huge works, the technical organization of which is perfect in every detail, have grown out of a small foundry purchased by the late Baron Albert de Rothschild. The development of the Austrian railway system is also closely connected with the Rothschilds. They financed the two largest lines in the empire—the north and south lines—and still hold a good portion of the shares.

The Scent of Flowers.

As a rule the scent of flowers does not exist in them as in a store or gland, but rather as a breath, an exhalation. While the flower lives it breathes out its sweetness, but when it dies the fragrance usually ceases to exist. The method of stealing from the flower its fragrance while it is still living is no new thing, and it is not known when it was discovered that butter, animal fat or oil would absorb the odor given off by living flowers placed near them and would themselves become fragrant.

Courage.

"Pa, what is courage?"

"Courage, my boy, is what your father shows when he keeps his shoes on when he comes into the house several hours later than he told your mother he would be."—Detroit Free Press.